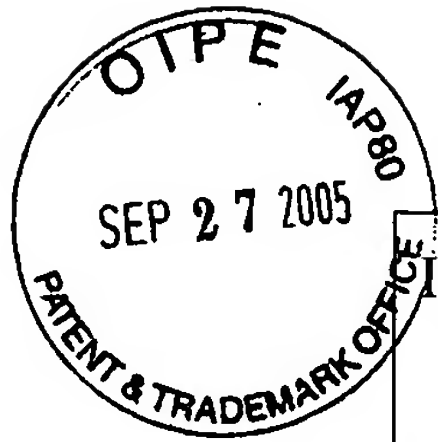


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:		Examiner:	
Ai Kondo		Sanza L. McClendon	
Serial No.	10/623,872	Art Unit:	1711
Filed:	July 21, 2003		
Title:	Curable White Ink		

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Declaration**

I, Satoshi Masumi, declare the following based on experiments that I conducted:

(1) Viscosity Measurement of the Ink of Hiwara

The viscosities of the inks of Hiwara (US 6,166,100) were measured to prove that the viscosity of the amended claim 1 is not taught by Hiwara.

Example 3 and Example 9 of Hiwara (US 6,166,100) were selected because both of them contain a white pigment (titanium white) which is one of the subject matter of the amended claim 1. Example 3 and Example 9 of Hiwara were prepared based on the composition described in Table 4 and Table 5.

The viscosity of Example 3 and Example 9 of Hiwara was measured with a viscosity measuring apparatus MCR 300 produced by Physica Co., Ltd. The temperature of the measurement was set to be 40°C and the shear rate was set to be 1000 (1/s). It was found that both Example 3 and Example 9 exhibit a viscosity of more than 500 mPa·s at 40°C. This indicates that the ink of Hiwara does not teach the ink of the currently

amended claim 1. The viscosity values of the inks of Hiwara were found to be too large to be applied to the ink-jet recording of the present invention.

(2) Viscosity Measurement of the Ink of Watanabe

Example 1 of Watanabe was prepared according to the description disclosed in Col. 15, lines 1-7. The resist ink composition was subject to the viscosity measurement using a viscosity measuring apparatus MCR 300 produced by Physica Co., Ltd. The temperature of the measurement was set to be 40°C and the shear rate was set to be 1000(1/s). It was found that the resist ink composition of Watanabe exhibited a viscosity value of more than 100 mPa·s at 40°C. This value is more than 3 times larger than the maximum value of the currently amended claim.

By:

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Satoshi Masumi

Date:

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